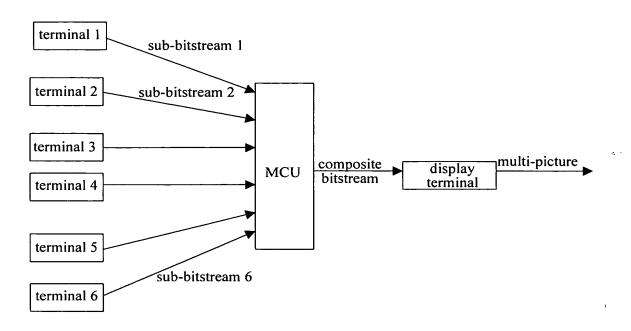
Fig.1



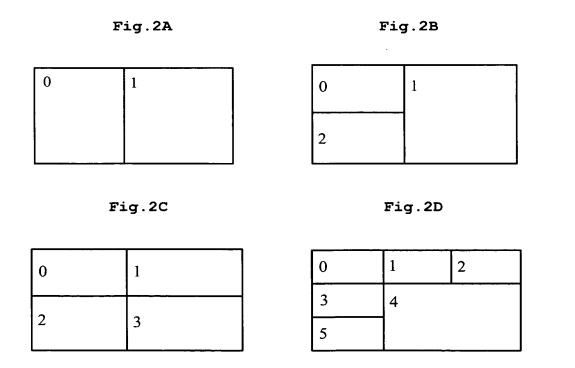


Fig.3

MCU creates an indicator containing multi-picture information for each of the terminals and sends the indicators to the respective terminals;

Each of the terminal receives the indicator, encodes a source picture according to the information in the multipicture information indicator, and inserts said multipicture information indicator into a sub-bitstream and transmits the sub-bitstream to MCU;

When receiving the sub-bitstreams from the respective terminals, MCU combines them into a composite bitstream and sends the composite bitstream to a display terminal;

The display terminal receives the composite bitstream, extracts the sub-bitstreams therefrom, and decodes the sub-bitstreams according to the multi-picture information indicators thereof and combines the decoded sub-pictures into a multi-picture image output.

Fig.4

